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WING INTELLIGENCE OFFICE  
KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, AND  
3380TH TECHNICAL TRAINING WING  
KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, MISSISSIPPI

12 (3mb)  
AF239791-1

NOV 6 1950

REPORT ON FOREIGN POSITIVE INTELLIGENCE

1. Attached are unevaluated letter reports on foreign positive intelligence forwarded to the Intelligence Division, 3380th Technical Training Wing by Pfc Umberto RAFAELS, AF-16309878, 3404th Training Squadron, Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi.
2. RAFAELS voluntarily forwarded the first letter report (Inclosure 1) to this office on 11 August 1950, apparently to get aid for his friends in the Baltic States. Additional reports were forwarded on request of the undersigned. In an attempt to evaluate the source, a local record check was accomplished and 1st Lt John J. Morley, Jr., Commanding Officer of the 3404th Training Squadron, was contacted.
  - a. Pfc RAFAELS was born in Jelgava, Latvia on 9 March 1931. He moved to Germany in October 1944 and to the United States in 1949. He enlisted in the USAF at Chicago, Illinois on 17 April 1950 and was assigned to the Radar Mechanic Airborne Equipment Course after completion of basic training.
  - b. Lt. Morley stated that RAFAELS has been a good soldier but very reticent. When Lt. Morley engaged RAFAELS in Russian language conversation, RAFAELS relaxed and became more voluble, telling about his life in Latvia under both German and Russian rule.
3. In English language conversations with RAFAELS, the undersigned was told that attempts to give information on Eastern European countries to Intelligence personnel at Lackland AFB were unsuccessful. This officer informed RAFAELS that all information would be forwarded to proper authorities. This officer learned that RAFAELS speaks Russian, Latvian, Polish and German and found that RAFAELS appears bitter about Russian rule.
4. According to the informant, the Underground desires to use short wave radio to a greater extent in passing information across the zonal boundary. The informant requested permission to utilize the Keesler Amateur Radio Club radio facilities to establish contact between this base and New York and Europe.
5. In addition to the requests for supplies for the Underground and permission to establish radio contact, RAFAELS desires assignment in Europe so that he may make personal contacts.
6. Contact with RAFAELS will be maintained by the Intelligence

FOR COORDINATION WITH 125 AF

Approved for Release  
by the Central Intelligence Agency  
Date: 2003 + 2005

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Wg Intell Office, KAFB & 3380 TTW, KAFB, Miss, Report on Foreign Intell.

Officer and supplemental information forwarded as received.

3 Incls

1. Ltr Rpt 11 Aug 50
2. Ltr Rpt 17 Aug 50
3. Ltr Rpt 21 Aug 50

ORVAL H. MICKELSON, Intelligence Officer, 3380th Tech Tng Wing, Keesler  
AFB, Mississippi

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11 Aug 50

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To: Intelligence Officer, Keesler A.F.B. Miss.  
From: Pfc. Umberto Rafaels, AF 16 309 878  
3404th Tng. Sq. (Radar), Box 240  
Keesler A.F.B. Miss.  
Subject: Underground movement in Latvia (Baltic States).

Sir:

There are established secret communication lines between Latvia and Germany. These communication lines are operated by Latvian underground movement which is fighting against communist occupation forces.

I believe USAF Intelligence Division will be interested in fact that the Red Army's military installations include submarine bases, V-weapon stations, new-build fortifications, air fields, etc. The Baltic States are declared as "super-security zone".

In the time being we are in possession of information about:

- a) air fields in Latvia,
- b) fortification descriptions along the Baltic Sea,
- c) new build roads,
- d) staff maps, etc.

All that information was brought to Western Europe by members of Latvian underground movement. The communication lines are dangerous and expensive. We could do more effective work in cooperation with USAF Int. Div. I hope that the above mentioned kind of information will be of great importance according to the political situation.

Underground representatives contacted CIC in Germany but received replay in which CIC refuse to give any assistance because of lack of money. A short time ago there was sent a report to FBI but we do not have the replay yet. I personally contacted the USAF Int. Div. in Lackland A.F.B. San Antonio, Texas. I was informed that this case is out of their authority.

How far I know USAF needs information about Russian installations. It is possible for us to get it. If the only reason why it is impossible to cooperate, is finance and law (persons doing intelligence work must be American citizens), we could do the work on other basis.

For items we could receive from USAF we could pay in cash (radio, machine guns, etc.). USAF will have no responsibility but you will receive all the information it will be possible for us to get. In case of emergency you will know that we have armed partisan units which can be put in action anytime. We have men with good experience in partisan war who will do the work.

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Umberto Rafaels  
Pfc. USAF # 6135

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17 AUG 50

To : Intelligence Officer Kessler A.F.B., Miss.  
From: Pte. Umberto Rataels, IV 16 309 878  
3404th Trg. Sq. (Radar) Box 240  
Kessler A.F.B., Miss.

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Sir:

This report is made according to your request about my personal background and general information on conditions in occupied Latvia.

I was born on March 9, 1921 in Jelgava, Latvia. The first years of my life I spend about 15 miles from Jelgava in county of Viscava where my father was district physician. After few years we moved back to Jelgava where my father died Oct. 1935. He was an officer in Latvian army during World War I. After my father's death we moved to Bulduri (approx. 12 miles west from Riga at the Baltic Sea) where we live till 1944.

In time between the years 1940/41 Latvia was under the first Russian occupation. During this time we lost 25% of our population. I used to spend myself some nights in forest with my relatives because of the fear of deportation. My uncle was deported and I received a message short time ago he died in Soviet forced labor camp.

During the month of June/July 1941 Reds was driven back by Germans. I saw the demoralized communist units which left behind their heavy and light armament, disordered, full of fear from the German "Blitz Krieg". There was a panic. For example I saw the Reds blowing up a railroad bridge across the river Lielupe but after 30 minutes there came a full loaded train with ammunition, guns and robbed civilian property. This train was captured by Germans because of the destroyed bridge.

In the year 1944 communists occupied Latvia the second time. I left for Germany Oct. 1944 over Latvian sea-port Liepaja. In Germany I used to live in Muerzzuschlag (Austria), Wangen, Wurzach 1/A (French Zone), Memmingen and Esslingen a/N (US Zone).

In the time I spend in Germany I get a contact with men working in interest for Latvian underground movement. During that time there came out a book: "The Baltic States the First Victims of Communist Brutality". Half of this book is completed by me. Going through this book you should get a general idea on conditions in Latvia under Red occupation up till 1946. The above mentioned book is enclosed to this report.

The Latvian underground movement and partisan units are fighting against the Reds from 1944. They do not get any help. They use the captured weapons and equipment. They need good equipment to do their work more efficient (modern automatic weapons, radio equipment, medical supply, etc.). There are members of underground movement living with legal documents, some are even employed by Russian secret police; they give a valuable information.

The partisan units generally consist of people who are on the "black list" of NKVD. They have only two choices either to be killed in NKVD chambers or to fight till the last round of ammunition. It is the last time to give them some assistance, at least moral because the communist pressure grows stronger.

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Liberto Rafael  
P.O.  
USAF

If you will give some cooperation you will receive very valuable information about Russian military installations. In case of war or emergency there are men who will be glad to carry out orders to make the life hard for communist forces. The man who operates our secret communication lines are working between Latvia and Germany. If you would give me a chance to work in Germany (official as a special investigator or other) I will keep contact between Latvian underground and USAF intelligence. In case it will be necessary for action I will be ready to go over to Latvia myself. I know the country and the language; besides Latvian I also speak German.

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21 Aug. 50

To: Intelligence Officer, Keesler A.F.B., Miss.  
From: Pfc. Umberto Rafaels, AF 16 309 878  
3404th Tng. Sq. Radar, Box 240, Keesler A.F.B., Miss.  
Subject: Latest information received from Latvia.

1. New Soviet troops enter Kurzeme and Zemgale (south west Latvia). Mainly infantry, artillery and armoured formations. The operation is scheduled, every week soldiers, weapons and tanks are brought from Leningrad direction during nights..
2. Coast artillery, naval forces are strengthened in Kurzeme, coast defense line building is carried on. Every movement of a person arriving at Liepaja and Ventspils is followed by MGB. Harbour and workshop areas completely off limits for civilians.
3. Great-volume fuel tanks are constructed to every MTS (Machine-Tractor Station) all over Latvia. So at Secs, near the former Pastorage, now MTS, at Daudzeva near Daudze Estate, at Nereta and Lielzalve MTS are tanks ca 4 meter high and 3 meter diameter. They are painted camouflage, but, nevertheless well-observable in great distance. It seems that the Russians store up greater amounts of fuel for war purposes.
4. Guarding of military objects is stronger in all Russian garrisons in the last time. Sentries are doubled near ammunitions, fuel and food stores.
5. Horse transport is still employed with the Russian artillery and supply units. The supply units are composed mostly by Asiats and older veterans, who are not yet demobilized. The Russian army is still insufficient supplied with food. Main provisions - potatoes and cereals. Uniforms often ragged and dirty. Only the officers are better clad.
6. It seems that the Russians have reinforced their Air Force units in the airports near Riga. You can observe frequently air force formations over Riga flying across the rail station to the NW.
7. Kolchoze workers had to carry out transport of gravel for highway and street repair from April 5 - 30. In order to avoid delay in the fields, the kolchoze workers had to work also on sundays. The repair of the bridge across the Iecava (Jelgava - Krustpils) was carried out also on sundays.
8. Lately acute shortage of accommodation has arisen due to increase of Russian troops. Often a flat of 3 rooms is inhabited by 2 - 3 families. It is especially so in big towns. The policy of MGB is to put a Russian family among Latvian families in every flat.
9. Shortage of seeds in the country. Kolchoze administration mainly Russians. Latvian peasantry is noticeably unsatisfied.
10. The Russians have started ruthless persecution against all Latvians in more or less significant positions. They are discharged and Russian agents put in their place or are submitted to all-time control. As the MGB tries to perfect its network of agents, the Latvians have grown extremely cautious. MGB has very successfully arranged its information apparatus, and it is difficult to avoid it even by frequent changes of residence and towns. Clerikal work must be left even by persons who only once a year have exchanged letters with abroad.

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11. Russian policy is carried on the schools are bound to teach the idea of Pan-Russia and to fight religion. The only change in the situation is that the Russians more earnestly consider the qualification of the Communist officials and to labor.

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